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IN THE CLAIMS:

1       Claim 1. (original) A method comprising:  
2       employing a first web server in a first DNS domain, and a second web  
3       server in a second DNS domain, wherein the first web server uses a first user  
4       tracking mechanism to collect client information and stores the client  
5       information as a client record in a database;

6               the first web server directing a client to access a resource at the  
7       second Web-Server;

8               said resource encapsulating information about a location of the client  
9       record in the database;

10              the second web server decapsulating the location and retrieving the  
11       client record from the database; and

12              the second web server using the client record in conjunction with a  
13       second user tracking mechanism.

1       Claim 2. (original) A method as recited in 1, wherein the first and  
2       the second user tracking mechanisms use cookies for storing the user client  
3       information.

1       Claim 3. (original) A method as recited in 1, wherein the first web  
2       server authenticates the client, and the client record includes user  
3       authentication data enabling the second web server to use a common sign-on  
4       with the sign-on of the first web server.

1       Claim 4. (original) A method as recited in 1, wherein the first web  
2       server stores within the client record at least one parameter which  
3       determines at least one characteristic of at least one page to be sent to the  
4       client by the second web server.

1       Claim 5. (previously presented) A method as recited in 4, wherein said  
2       at least one parameter includes at least one user preference.

1       Claim 6. (original) A method as recited in 5, wherein said at least  
2       one user preference is related to at least one detected purchasing habit.

1       Claim 7. (previously presented) A method comprising:  
2       employing a first web server in a first DNS domain, and a second web  
3       server in a second DNS domain,  
4       enabling said first and second web servers to share cookie information;  
5       coordinating cookies across said first and second domains;  
6       storing a client record in a database by the first web server; and

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7 creating a link to the second web server that encapsulates information  
8 about a location of the client record in the database.

PAGE 4/20 \* RCVD AT 5/15/2006 9:23:26 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/11 \* DNIS:2738300 \* CSID:646-290-9142 \* DURATION (mm:ss):09-14

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4 server and a second user tracking mechanism in a second web-server, the  
5 computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture  
6 comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to  
7 effect the steps of claim 7.

1       Claim 14. (original) A method comprising:  
2            employing a first user tracker in a first domain, and a second user  
3            tracker in a second domain, wherein the first user tracker uses a first user  
4            tracking mechanism to collect client information and stores the client  
5            information as a client record in a database;  
6            the first user tracker directing a client to access a resource at the  
7            second user tracker;  
8            said resource encapsulating information about a location of the client  
9            record in the database;  
10          the second user tracker decapsulating the location and retrieving the  
11          client record from the database; and  
12          the second user tracker using the client record in conjunction with a  
13          second user tracking mechanism.

1        Claim 15. (original) A program storage device readable by machine,  
2        tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to  
3        perform method steps for tracking users, said method steps comprising the  
4        steps of claim 1.

1        Claim 16. (original) A program storage device readable by machine,  
2        tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to  
3        perform method steps for using cookies, said method steps comprising the  
4        steps of claim 7.

1        Claim 17. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer  
2        usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein  
3        for causing tracking of users, the computer readable program code means in  
4        said computer program product comprising computer readable program code means  
5        for causing a computer to effect the functions of claim 11.

1        Claim 18. (previously presented) A method comprising:  
2            employing a first web server in a first DNS domain, and a second web  
3            server in a second DNS domain, wherein the first web server maintains a first  
4            private cookie at a browser and the second web server maintains a second  
5            private cookie at the browser;  
6            accessing a cookie coordinator when the first private cookie is

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7 received by the first web-server;  
8 mapping a first identity in the first private cookie and a second  
9 identity in the second private cookie to a single identity common across the  
10 multiple domains;  
11 storing a client record in a database by the first web server; and  
12 creating a link to the second web server that encapsulates information  
13 about a location of the client record in the database.

1       Claim 19. (original) A method as recited in claim 18, further  
2 comprising:  
3       using the single identity to look up the identity of users across the  
4 different domains, and  
5       the cookie coordinator learning the mapping of the various cookies that  
6 are placed independently on the browser by the different servers.

1       Claim 20. (original) A program storage device readable by machine,  
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to  
3 perform method steps for tracking users, said method steps comprising the  
4 steps of claim 18.

1       Claim 21. (previously presented) An apparatus comprising:  
2       a web server interface to interface with a first web server in a first  
3 DNS domain and to interface a second web server in a second DNS domain;  
4       said first web server having:  
5       a first user tracker to collect client information and store  
6 client information as a client record in a cookie coordinator database;  
7       a redirector for the first web server to direct a client to  
8 access a resource at the second web server;  
9       an encapsulator for said resource to encapsulate information  
10 about a location of the client record in the database; and  
11       said second web server having:  
12       a second user tracker for the second web server to use the client  
13 record in conjunction with a second user tracking mechanism; and  
14       a decapsulator for the second web server to decapsulate a  
15 location and retrieve the client record from the database.

1       Claim 22. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer  
2 usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein  
3 for causing tracking of users, the computer readable program code means in  
4 said computer program product comprising computer readable program code means  
5 for causing a computer to effect the functions of claim 21.

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1       Claim 23. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1,  
2 further comprising:

3           wherein the database is a cookie coordination database; and  
4           wherein directing the client to access the resource at the second Web-  
5 Server includes sending the client a link to the second Web-Server.

1       Claim 24. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1,  
2 wherein directing the client to access the resource at the second Web-Server  
3 includes sending a HTTP response code from the first Web-Server configured to  
4 cause the client to be redirected to the second Web-Server using HTTP  
5 redirection.

1       Claim 25. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7,  
2 wherein the database is a cookie coordination database.

1       Claim 26. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7,  
2 further comprising sending a HTTP response code from the first web server  
3 configured to cause the client to be redirected to the second web server  
4 using HTTP redirection.

1       Claim 27. (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 11,  
2 further comprising:

3           wherein the database is a cookie coordination database; and  
4           wherein means for the first web server directing the client to access  
5 the resource at the second web server includes means for sending the client a  
6 link to the second web server.

1       Claim 28. (previously presented) An apparatus as recited in claim 11,  
2 further comprising means for sending a HTTP response code from the first web  
3 server configured to cause the client to be redirected to the second web  
4 server using HTTP redirection.

1       Claim 29. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 14,  
2 further comprising:

3           wherein the database is a cookie coordination database; and  
4           wherein directing the client to access the resource at the second user  
5 tracker includes sending the client a link to the resource.

1       Claim 30. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 14,  
2 further comprising sending a HTTP response code from the first user tracker  
3 configured to cause the client to be redirected to the second user tracker  
4 using HTTP redirection.

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1       Claim 31. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 18,  
2 further comprising sending a HTTP response code from the first web server  
3 configured to cause the client to be redirected to the second web server  
4 using HTTP redirection.

1       Claim 32. (previously presented) A apparatus as recited in claim 21,  
2 wherein the redirector is configured to send a HTTP response code from the  
3 first web server configured to cause the client to be redirected to the  
4 second web server using HTTP redirection.